

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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70

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 USIA-15 SAM-01 INT-08 FEA-02 SCI-06 AID-20

CIEP-02 TRSE-00 STR-08 OMB-01 CEA-02 COME-00 FRB-02

XMB-07 OPIC-12 LAB-06 SIL-01 NEA-11 SAJ-01 NIC-01

DRC-01 /216 W

----- 057599

R 041505Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9494

INFO USINT ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

CONFIDENTIAL CONAKRY 0201

NOFORN

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS : PFOR GV AG

SUBJECT : REPORT THAT ALGERIA TO HELP GUINEA WITH POL

REF: CONAKRY 0051 (NOTAL)

1. SINCE MEETING WITH MIN ECONOMY AND FINANCE REPORTED
REFTEL, HAVE ALSO BRIEFED FOREIGN MINISTER AND OTHER
OFFICIALS ON US POSITION ON OIL CONSUMERS CONSULTATIONS
AND PRODUCERS-CONSUMERS MEETING. AT MEETING WITH MIN-
ISTERS, GUINEA'S VIEWS WERE SOLICITED. FOREIGN MINISTER
PROMISED TO CONVEY OUR PRESENTATION TO PRESIDENT AND LET
ME HAVE PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS BY JAN 19. AS USUAL WITH
HIM, THERE WAS NO FOLLOW-UP.

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2. ON FEB 2, I CALLED ON SAUDI CHARGE AND ASKED IF GUINEANS HAD DISCUSSED WITH HIM THE PROBLEMS CREATED BY RISE IN POL PRICES. SAUDI SAID THEY HAD NOT. (WE HAVE HEARD ELSEWHERE THAT MINISTER OF THE INTERIOR DOMAIN, MOUSSA DIAKITE, LED A DELEGATION TO SAUDI ARABIA AND REPORTEDLY MET WITH KING FAISAL SOME TWO WEEKS AGO, ALTHOUGH WE DO NOT KNOW WHAT THE PURPOSE OF THE MISSION WAS.) SAUDI THEN COMMENTED THAT GUINEA'S POL PROBLEM WOULD ONLY BE SOLVED WHEN REFINERY PROMISED BY ALGERIANS AND BELGIANS IN CONSTRUCTED WITH LOAN FROM RECENTLY ESTABLISHED ARAB DEVELOPMENT BANK.

3. SUBSEQUENTLY, ROMANIAN AMBASSADOR, WHO HAS BEEN PARTICULARLY FORTHCOMING SINCE CEUSESCU'S VISIT TO US, ASKED TO SEE ME AND REFERRED TO AN EARLIER DISCUSSION ON GUINEA'S POL SITUATION. ACCORDING TO THE ROMANIAN, ALGERIA HAS PROMISED TO MAKE UP ANY SHORTFALL IN POL FOR GUINEA DUE TO PRICE INCREASES ON A "CLEARING" BASIS. ALGERIANS, HE SAID, VALUED THEIR SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP WITH GUINEA AND WOULD NOT BE TOO HARD ON REPAYMENT. ROMANIAN INTIMIDATED HIS INFORMATION CAME DIRECTLY FROM GUINEAN MINISTER OF THE DOMAIN OF THE INTERIOR. GUINEAN MINISTER OF EXTERNAL COMMERCE ALSO TRAVELED TO ALGIERS AND CAIRO LAST WEEK.

4. COMMENT: ALGERIA HAS BEEN RATHER LAVISH IN MAKING PROMISES AND SIGNING AGREEMENTS WITH GUINEA AND THE PAIGC IN THE PAST ALTHOUGH THEIR RECORD ON FOLLOW-THROUGH HAS BEEN POOR. THE OIL PRICE RISE POSED A PARTICULAR POLICY DILEMMA FOR GUINEA. ON THE ONE HAND, AFRO-ARAB SOLIDARITY IS OF CONSIDERABLE POLITICAL IMPORTANCE TO THE GUINEAN REGIME AND PRESIDENT SEKOU TOURE WOULD NOT WANT TO DO ANYTHING TO ENDANGER IT. ON THE OTHER, GUINEA IS AMONG THE POOREST COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD AND DOES NOT HAVE SUFFICIENT FX RESERVES TO MAINTAIN CURRENT POL CONSUMPTION AT PRESENT PRICE LEVELS. IF ALGERIA FILLS THE VOID ON EASY TERMS, HER SUPPLY PROBLEM SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN SOLVED. THE CONTINUED SILENCE IN ANSWER TO OUR REQUEST FOR GUINEA'S VIEWS ON THE WASHINGTON CONFERENCE MOST PROBABLY MEANS THAT GUINEA HAS FOUND A WAY TO SERVE HER POLITICAL INTEREST AS WELL AS HER ECONOMIC INTEREST THROUGH ALGERIA AND HAS NO INTEREST IN THE CONFERENCE. COMMENT BY ALGERIAN AMBASSADOR REPORTED CONFIDENTIAL

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PARA 2 STATE 21560, JUST RECEIVED, PROBABLY REPRESENTS GUINEA'S VIEW AS WELL.
HAVERKAMP

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NNN

Message Attributes

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